



NAVAL RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS BU-MIT CONSORTIUM
Department of Naval Science
Boston University
116 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215
MIT
77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139

4 Apr 14

From: Major Craig Giorgis, Marine Officer Instructor
To: MECEP Selectees and Potential Applicants
Encl: (1) Contact Information and Report Dates

Subj: NAVAL ROTC CONSORTIUM BOSTON UNIVERSITY-MIT CONSORTIUM

1. For those of you have been selected into the program, congratulations on making the cut through a very competitive process. For those of you who are applying, good luck and feel free to contact me at any point.
2. Life as a MECEP student will be like nothing that you have experienced before or probably expected to get out of the Marine Corps. You will be an active duty Marine assigned to a college campus for the sole purpose of earning your college degree and commissioning. There are some inherent challenges that are associated with this type of environment but you would not have been selected if you did not have the character and skill to succeed. On the other hand, the benefits of your decision are life changing. Whether you decide to do four years or forty as a Marine Corps Officer, you will have earned a college degree from a very reputable institution and you will have gained experience that virtually every corporation in America would seek from its applicants. As I am sure you will agree - being a Marine is likely the most rewarding, satisfying thing you will ever do and serving as a Marine Corps officer means you will never have to prove yourself to anyone in your life ever again.
3. Regardless of which college you choose to attend, you will not be disappointed. Marine ROTC programs exist only at the best institutions around the country. The Marine Corps only requires two things from you in order to get commissioned: 1) Pass OCS 2) earn an undergraduate degree. The Marine Corps does not care about what school you graduate from nor does it care what degree program you choose. Therefore, my advice to you is to relax when it comes to your decision making process. Choose a college or location that you will enjoy and choose a subject for your major that interests you. Viewing your decision through that lens is the best way to ensure an enjoyable and rewarding college experience. It doesn't matter if you are an Aerospace Engineer from MIT or an art history major from a small state school. Get a four year degree, pass OCS, and you will commission.
4. That being said, I want to provide you some information regarding the college opportunities and the NROTC program here in Boston. Am I recruiting? Of course. The strength and value that an NCO or SNCO brings to the program is unquantifiable. I would be surprised if you didn't see 55 other letters from MOIs across the country. But as I mentioned before, no matter where you choose to go school, you will be successful. I merely want to provide you information about our unit and staff to ensure you make an informed decision.
5. One of the most frequent questions I get is: Are Boston schools expensive? The short answer is yes. But you can make it work, and it is a worthwhile expense.

As of August 2011, the GI Bill pays up to a maximum value for active duty members. You can find more information about that on the Veteran's Affairs website. The GI Bill will cover roughly ½ of your tuition here in

Subj: BOSTON NROTC CONSORTIUM


Boston, but consider the schools that are available to you - Boston University, Boston College, Northeastern University, Tufts University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard University. Also consider the non-traditional programs - such as BC's Woods College, the Harvard Extension School, and BU's Metropolitan College - as they charge less than the traditional programs. While the Marine Corps may not care what your degree says, consider the weight of having any of those institutions on your resume when you eventually do leave the Marine Corps. These schools are among the very best in America. Five of the six schools within our Consortium are ranked in the top 200 on the Times of London World University rankings. They thus attract some of the most talented young people in the nation. Your fellow Naval ROTC students (Marine Option Midshipmen) here are as passionate about the Corps as they are intelligent. They are physically fit, driven, and disciplined - or else they would not have made it here. As with all NROTC units, we conduct a very aggressive training program in order to prepare midshipmen for OCS and service as company grade officers. You will assist in training them while you are also preparing yourself to become an officer. As one of a small group of MECEPs at the Boston Consortium, you will have a significant impact on these young midshipmen. Your experience and leadership will be invaluable.

6. The second question I often get is regarding the cost of living here. Yes, it is expensive. But Boston is a great city. It is routinely rated as the number one sports town in America. Its historical value goes without saying. And yet the city is very contemporary because we have the highest density of colleges and universities anywhere in the world. Therefore the average age is very young, the population is very transient and that keeps the entertainment industry here very modern. If you joined the Marine Corps to see the world and the country, this is a unique opportunity to live in the Northeast as a Marine. I can also tell you from personal experience that Boston loves Marines. There is tremendous support for the Corps here and the community is filled with former Marines.

As far as the cost of living in Boston is concerned, you will receive BAH that will easily support you in Boston. We also receive COLA which helps out as well. If you think you cannot afford the Boston area, reconsider. One MECEP in the unit attends Woods College at BC; the GI Bill covers all of his tuition. Another attends Harvard; his tuition is less than that of a state school thanks to generous financial aid. His wife attends BC and they have two young children. In other words, you can make it work. We are also close to Hanscom AFB, which offers on-base housing for active duty military.

7. Contact information for these two MECEP students is below (Encl 1). I would highly recommend you contact one or both of them.

8. Again, congratulations on your acceptance as a MECEP or your decision to apply. MECEP is one of the best deals the Marine Corps has to offer. If you decide to attend one of these universities, you have hit the trifecta: 1) you graduate from a prestigious university with national and international recognition 2) you get trained for success as a company grade officer while also training some of the nation's best future officers and 3) you get to enjoy college as a true college student. But as I mentioned before, where ever you decide to go to school, you will be making a good decision - so relax. Wherever your decision leads you, good luck and I commend you once again on your decision to become an officer.



C. A. GIORGIS

Contact Information

1. Marine Officer Instructor: Major Craig Giorgis.
(e) moi@bu.edu
(w) 617.353.0478
2. Assistant Marine Officer Instructor: Gunnery Sergeant Nicholas Romer.
(e) nmromer@bu.edu
(w) 617.353.0477
3. Current MECEP students assigned to the Consortium.
 - a. Staff Sergeant Taylor Evans (Harvard College)
(e) tbevans@college.harvard.edu
(c) 857.998.3416
 - b. Staff Sergeant Scott Taylor Bryant (Boston College)
(e) taylor@capella46.com
(c) 619.208.2850

4. Recruiting Officers.

Boston University, Boston College, Northeastern University.
LT Jacob Reed, USN. jreed83@bu.edu

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard College, Tufts University.
LT Steven Smith, USN. smiths2@mit.edu

* - The recruiting officers are the experts in admissions and housing knowledge at all of our schools. If you are interested in MIT, be sure to contact LT Smith regarding "Star Status" after you have applied.

AY14-15 NLT Report Dates:

FA14: 20 August 2014
SP15: 1 January 2015
SU15: 4 May 2015